



Tempe Art in Private Development



Papago Gateway Center

350 W. Washington Street

Rebecca Ross

Translation, 2008

Concrete, steel, water,
LED lighting, glass tile

Artist Website:

www.RebeccaRossStudio.com

Photo: Craig Smith

Description: "Translation" is a multiple-part artwork consisting of four water features, spanning a total length of 170 feet. Its elements work together to suggest change, discovery and the fluid nature of the human thought process. The artwork incorporates 16 gradations of multi-hued Italian glass tile in a linear mosaic design, ranging from cool tones on the east end of the project to warm tones on the west end. The arrangement of the glass tile reflects how colors progress along the color wheel, visually suggesting the minute changes that can lead to new ideas—one shade or one discovery at a time. LED lighting in the pools enables the project to have a subtle nighttime presence. The artist incorporated photography featuring botanical specimens from the surrounding area into artistically enhanced project signage throughout the parking structure and building. Images of desert plants, reproduced on aluminum, are dyed with brilliant hues that connect to the colors in the water features and work as wayfinding elements throughout the center in a successful articulation of art and function.

Artist biography: Rebecca Ross is a professional Arizona artist who has completed public art projects for the cities of Tempe, Mesa, Scottsdale, Glendale and Phoenix. Rebecca's work is represented in public and private collections nationally and abroad including the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture, Mayo Clinic-Scottsdale, and the Museum of Fine Arts-Houston.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer, Chestnut Properties LLC, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.